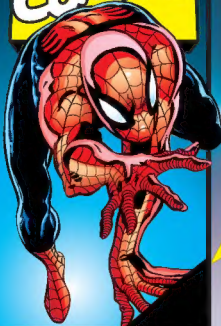


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# SPIDER-MAN CHAPTER ONE



FEATURING  
THE  
HUMAN  
TORCH



ENTER:  
ELECTRO!



WHAT DO YOU DO IF YOU'RE A POWERFUL MAN--IF, PERHAPS, YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF THE MOST POWERFUL MAN IN THE TEEMING CITY OF NEW YORK...

...AND YOU FIND YOURSELF IN ONE OF THOSE SITUATIONS WHERE ALL YOUR WEALTH, ALL YOUR POWER, ALL YOUR WHISPERED INFLUENCE IN HIGH PLACES AVAIL YOU NAUGHT?

ONE OF THOSE SITUATIONS WHERE CIRCUMSTANCE REDUCES YOU TO BEING JUST ANOTHER MERE MORTAL, FORCED TO WAIT LIKE ANYONE ELSE?

WHAT DO YOU DO?

WELL, IF YOUR NAME HAPPENS TO BE J. JONAH JAMESON, YOU WAIT--BUT YOU MAKE SURE EVERYONE KNOWS YOU'RE NOT HAPPY ABOUT IT!

Credits:

**JOHN BYRNE**  
WRITER, PENCILER,  
INKER, LETTERER

**CHRISTIE SCHEEL**  
COLORIST

**RALPH MACCHIO**  
EDITOR

**BOB HARRAS**  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

BASED ON ORIGINAL  
WORKS BY

**STAN LEE**

AND

**STEVE DITKO**

WITH A TIP OF THE HAT TO  
**JACK "KING" KIRBY**



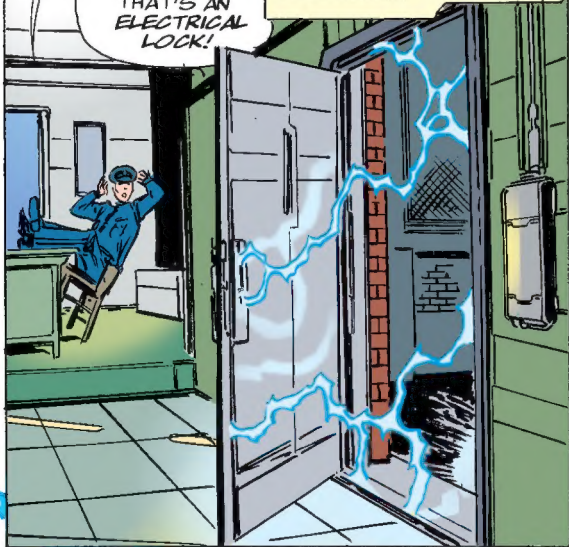


AND, AS THE PUBLISHER OF THE DAILY BUGLE  
FUMES IMPOTENTLY...

WHAT  
IN..?

THE DOOR  
JUST SPRANG  
OPEN! BUT  
THAT'S AN  
ELECTRICAL  
LOCK!

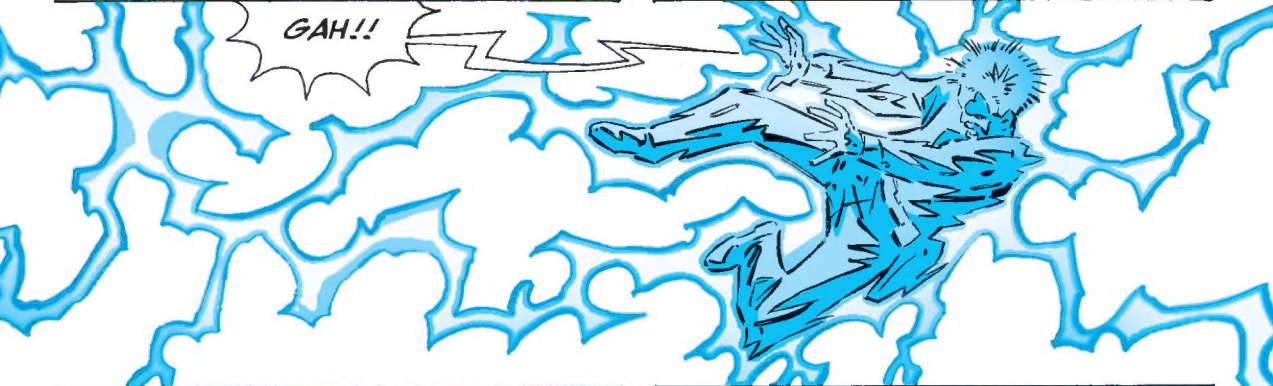
...ONLY A FEW ROOMS  
AWAY, ONE RAY WINSTON,  
NIGHT GUARD, IS ABOUT TO  
HAVE AN UNPLEASANT  
SURPRISE...



SOMEONE'S TRYING TO  
BREAK IN! WHY DIDN'T THE  
ALARM...

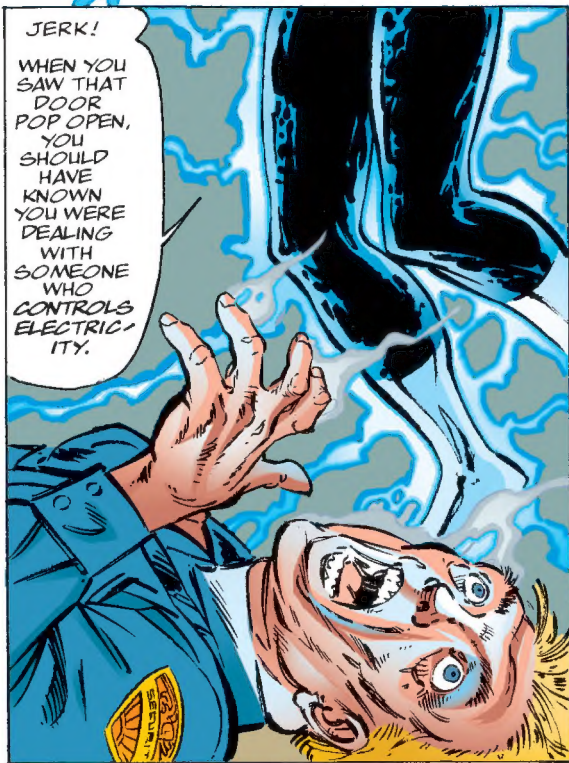


GAH!!



JERK!

WHEN YOU  
SAW THAT  
DOOR  
POP OPEN,  
YOU  
SHOULD  
HAVE  
KNOWN  
YOU WERE  
DEALING  
WITH  
SOMEONE  
WHO  
CONTROLS  
ELECTRIC-  
ITY.



NOW, DON'T YOU TWO MAKE  
THE SAME MISTAKE!

WHO IN...??





CALL ME  
ELECTRO,  
JAMESON.

OR JUST  
CALL ME  
TROUBLE!

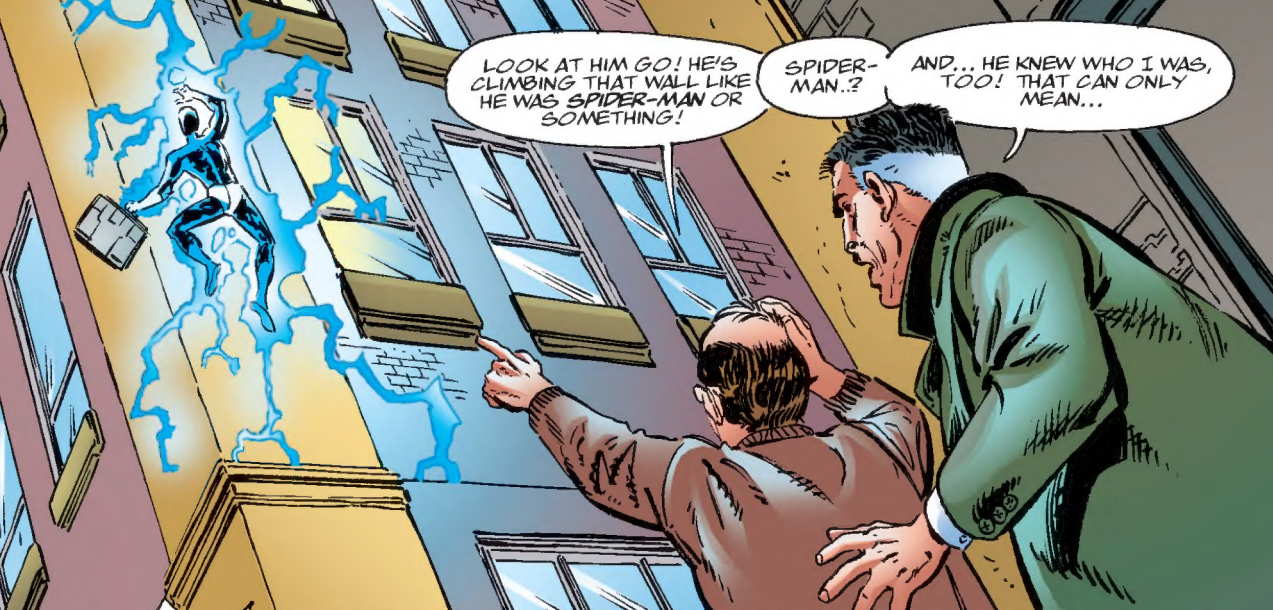
THAT CHARGE OF STATIC  
ELECTRICITY WILL KEEP THE  
TWO OF YOU OUT OF MY  
WAY WHILE I TAKE CARE OF  
THE TIME LOCK ON THIS  
VAULT.



DON'T TRY TO FOLLOW ME!  
MY BOLTS HAVE ENOUGH  
RANGE TO FRICASSEE  
BOTH OF YOU FROM A MILE  
AWAY!







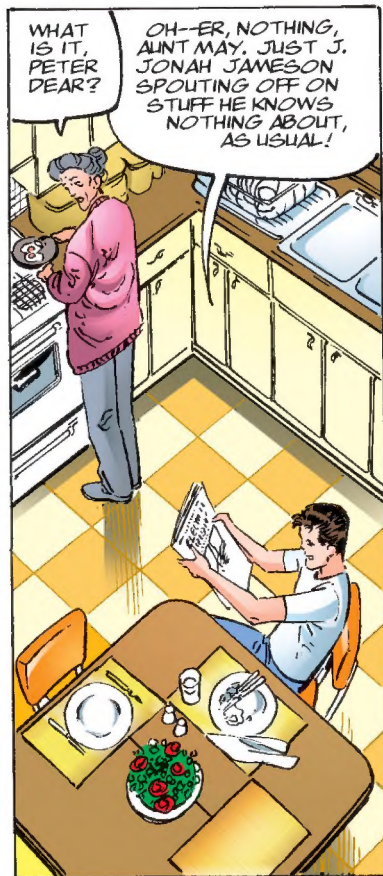
LOOK AT HIM GO! HE'S CLIMBING THAT WALL LIKE HE WAS SPIDER-MAN OR SOMETHING!

SPIDER-MAN..?

AND... HE KNEW WHO I WAS, TOO! THAT CAN ONLY MEAN...

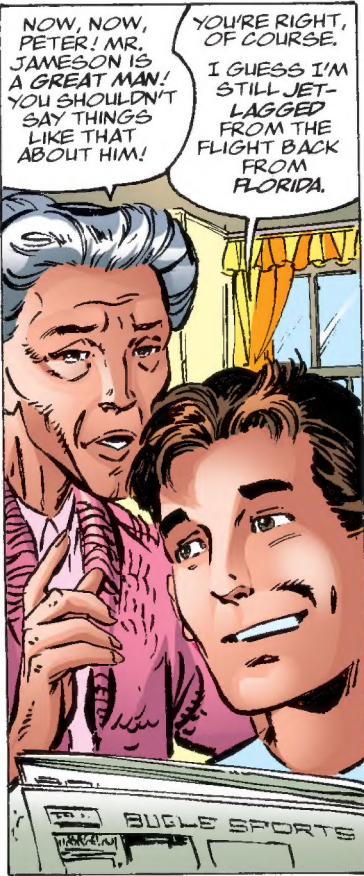
WHAT...?!

**BUGLE**  
**ELECTRO IS SPIDER-MAN!**  
Bugle Publisher Is Eyewitness



WHAT IS IT, PETER DEAR?

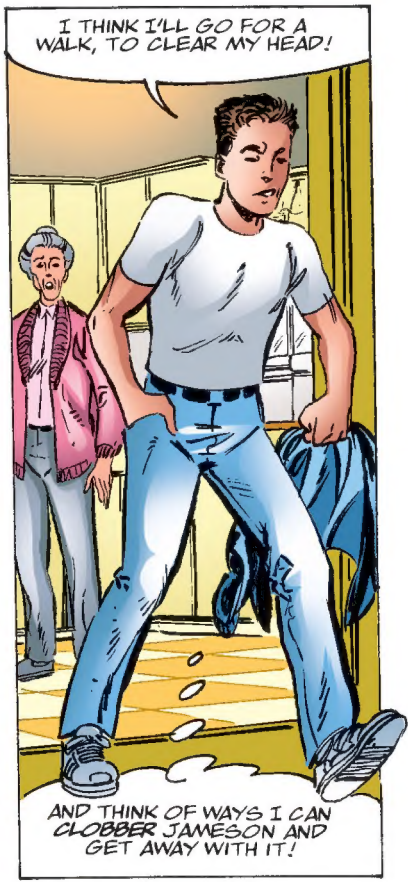
OH-ER, NOTHING, AUNT MAY. JUST J. JONAH JAMESON SPOUTING OFF ON STUFF HE KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT, AS USUAL!



NOW, NOW, PETER! MR. JAMESON IS A GREAT MAN! YOU SHOULDN'T SAY THINGS LIKE THAT ABOUT HIM!

YOU'RE RIGHT, OF COURSE.

I GUESS I'M STILL JET-LAGGED FROM THE FLIGHT BACK FROM FLORIDA.



I THINK I'LL GO FOR A WALK, TO CLEAR MY HEAD!

AND THINK OF WAYS I CAN CLOBBER JAMESON AND GET AWAY WITH IT!





"JAMESON KNOWS BETTER THAN ANYONE THAT SPIDER-MAN CAN'T BE THIS ELECTRO CHARACTER!"

"ELECTRO STRUCK FIRST YESTERDAY, AND YESTERDAY JAMESON AND I WERE BOTH IN THE EVERGLADES..."

"...AND I WAS BUSY FIGHTING THE LIZARD!"

"THE LIZARD ESCAPED OUR FIRST CONFRONTATION..."

"...BUT I SOON LEARNED HIS TERRIBLE SECRET..."

THAT'S WHAT I SAID, SPIDER-MAN--THE CREATURE YOU CALL THE LIZARD IS REALLY MY HUSBAND, CURTIS CONNORS!

YOU SAY HE USED THIS FORMULA HE CONCOCTED TO TRY TO GROW BACK THE ARM HE LOST...

...JUST THE WAY CERTAIN LIZARDS CAN REGENERATE LIMBS!

YES--BUT HE MISCALCULATED SOMEHOW. AND THE RESULT...

WE'VE ALL SEEN THE RESULT, MRS. CONNORS.\*

\*AND YOU'LL FIND OUT ALL ABOUT HOW CURT CONNORS BECAME THE LOATHSOME LIZARD IN OUR SPECIAL #0 ISSUE, ON SALE NEXT MONTH - RALF

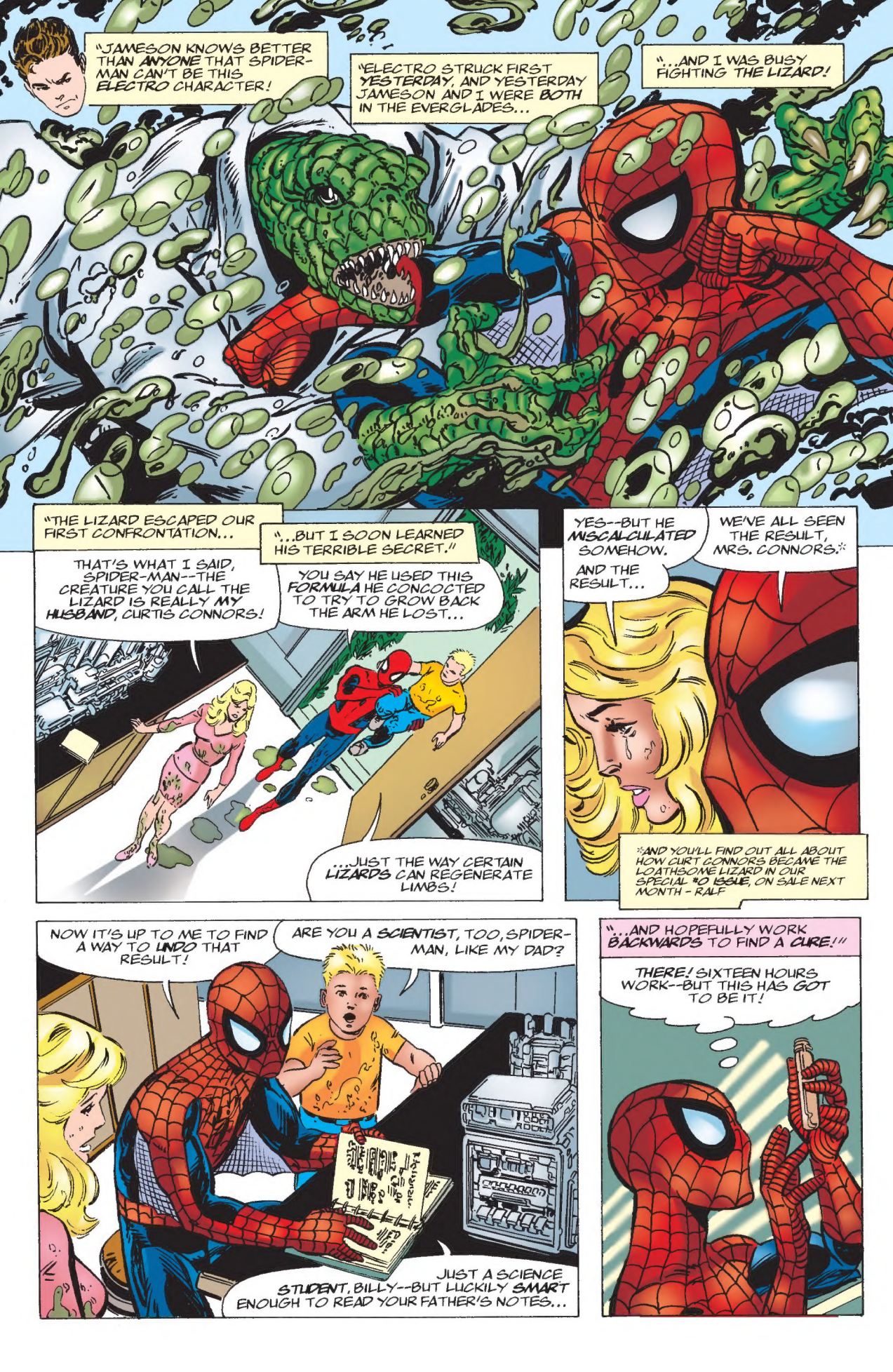
NOW IT'S UP TO ME TO FIND A WAY TO UNDO THAT RESULT!

ARE YOU A SCIENTIST, TOO, SPIDER-MAN, LIKE MY DAD?

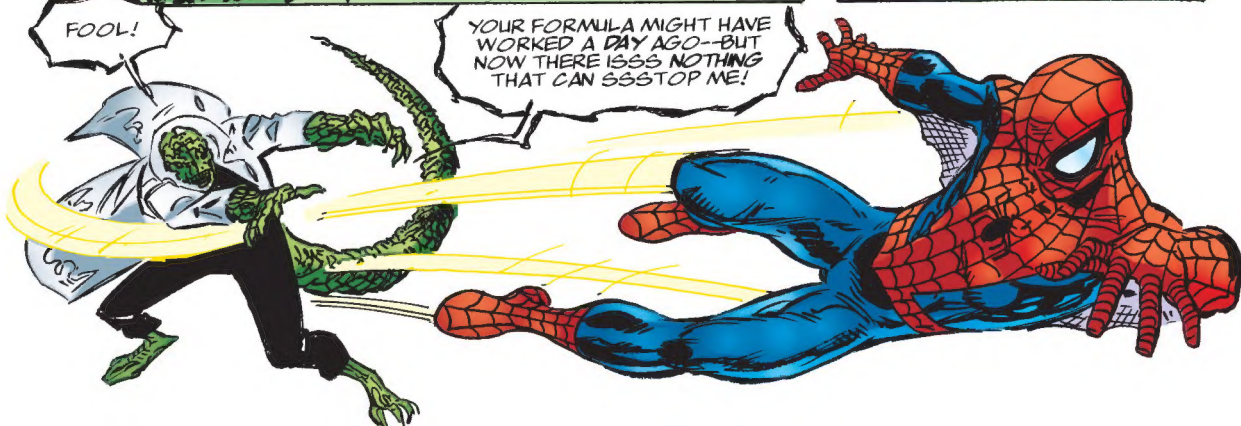
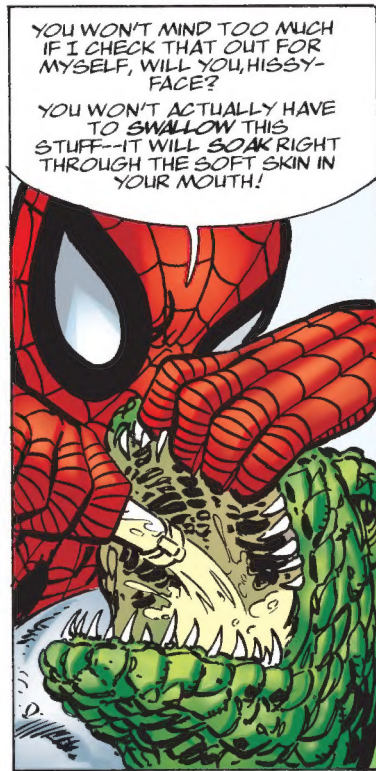
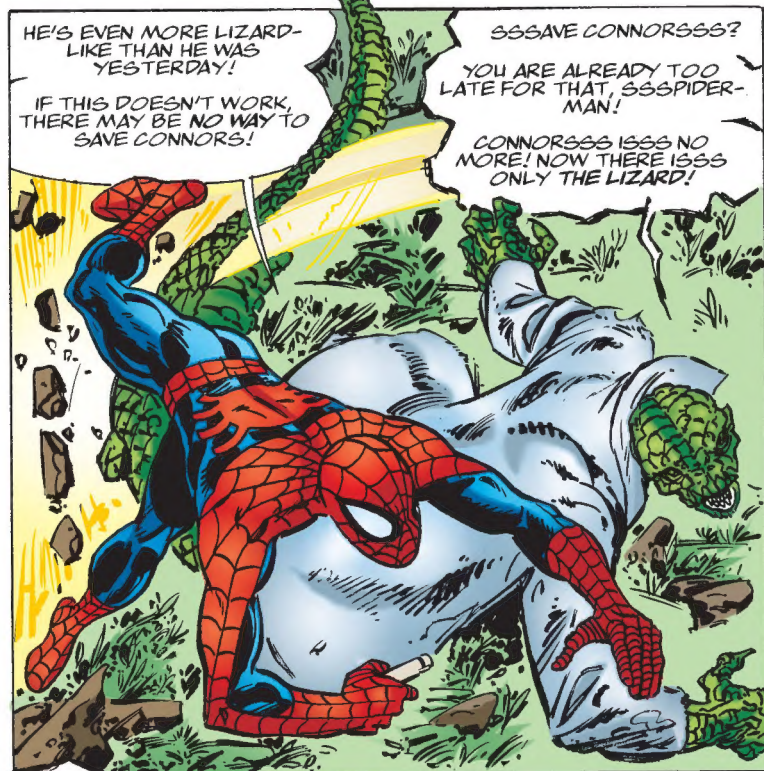
JUST A SCIENCE STUDENT, BILLY--BUT LUCKILY SMART ENOUGH TO READ YOUR FATHER'S NOTES...

"...AND HOPEFULLY WORK BACKWARDS TO FIND A CURE!"

THERE! SIXTEEN HOURS WORK--BUT THIS HAS GOT TO BE IT!



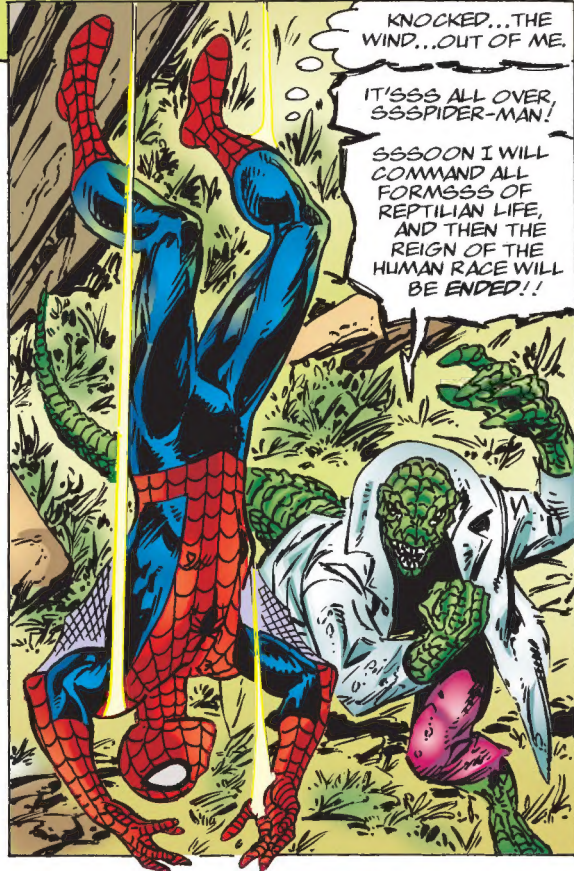






HE--HE'S RIGHT! THE FORMULA SHOULD HAVE STARTED TO WORK BY NOW!

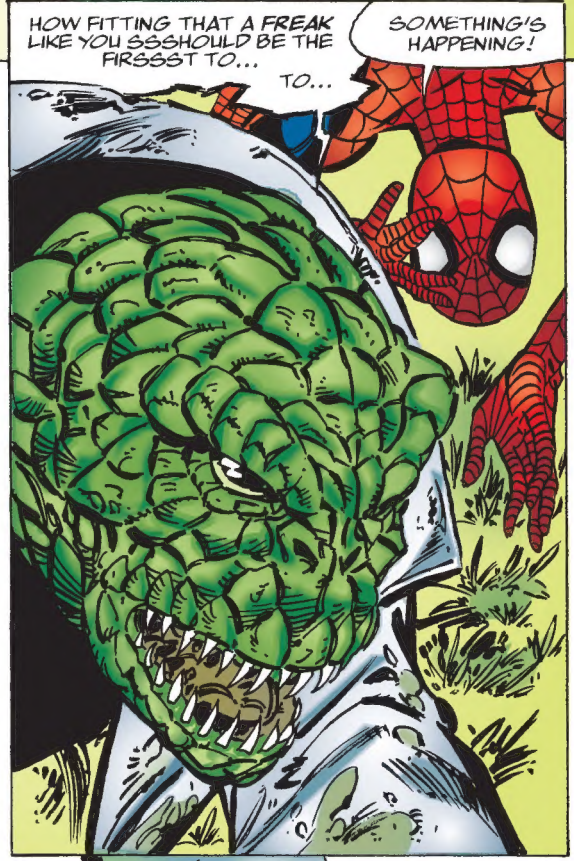
OOF! THAT TAIL! IT'S SO FAST...



KNOCKED...THE WIND...OUT OF ME.

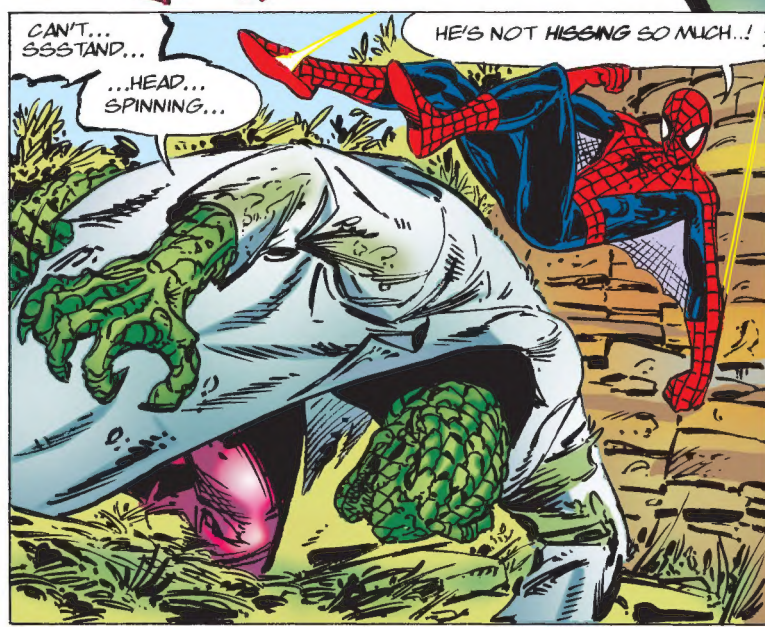
IT'SSS ALL OVER, SSSPIDER-MAN!

SSSOON I WILL COMMAND ALL FORMSSS OF REPTILIAN LIFE, AND THEN THE REIGN OF THE HUMAN RACE WILL BE ENDED!!



HOW FITTING THAT A FREAK LIKE YOU SSSHOULD BE THE FIRSST TO... TO...

SOMETHING'S HAPPENING!



CAN'T... SSSSTAND...

...HEAD... SPINNING...

HE'S NOT HISSING SO MUCH...!



HIS HAND! IT'S CHANGING!





EASY, DOCTOR CONNORS! THAT TRANSFORMATION WAS A LOT FASTER THAN THE FIRST ONE. IT WILL HAVE TAKEN A LOT OUT OF YOU!

MY...ARM. IT'S --GONE! I'VE REVERTED COMPLETELY TO HOW I WAS BEFORE I USED MY REGENERATIVE FORMULA!

"EVERYTHING WAS BACK THE WAY IT SHOULD BE! I TOOK CONNORS HOME TO A JOYFUL REUNION..."

IT'S ALL OVER, DARLING! THANKS TO SPIDER-MAN!

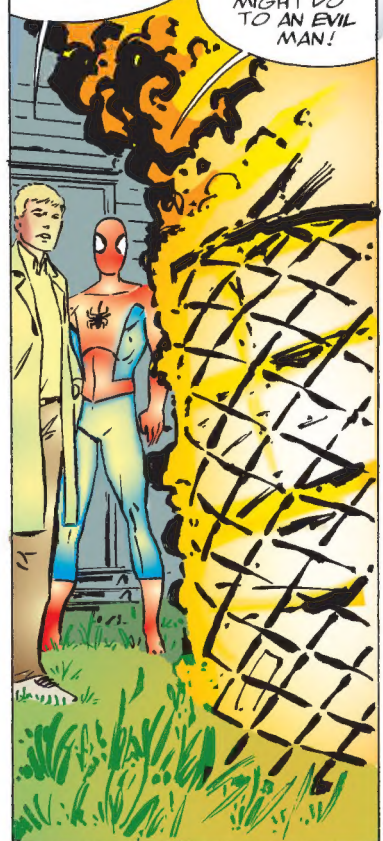
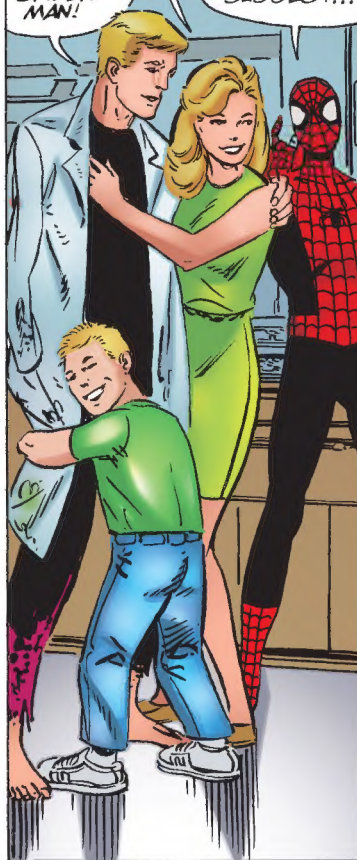
HOWEVER CAN WE REPAY YOU?

WELL, THERE'S ONE THING I MIGHT SUGGEST...

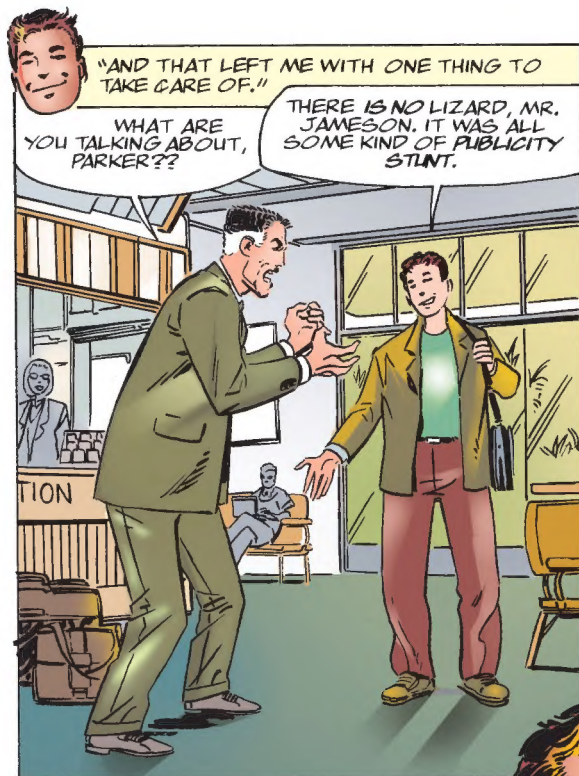
TEN YEARS OF RESEARCH GOING UP IN SMOKE! BUT, YOU'RE RIGHT, SPIDER-MAN--IF MY NOTES SHOULD EVER FALL INTO THE WRONG HANDS...

YES--IF THAT FORMULA COULD TURN A GOOD MAN LIKE YOU INTO A MONSTER LIKE THE LIZARD...

...IMAGINE WHAT IT MIGHT DO TO AN EVIL MAN!







"AND THAT LEFT ME WITH ONE THING TO TAKE CARE OF."

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, PARKER??

THERE IS NO LIZARD, MR. JAMESON. IT WAS ALL SOME KIND OF PUBLICITY STUNT.



WHAT ABOUT SPIDER-MAN? THE BUGLE CHALLENGED HIM TO FIGHT THE LIZARD! DID YOU AT LEAST GET PICTURES I CAN USE TO EMBARRASS HIM?

NOPE--HE NEVER SHOWED, EITHER. LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE BEEN HAD ALL 'ROUND, J.J.

WHO DID YOU SAY WAS THE EMBARRASSED ONE?

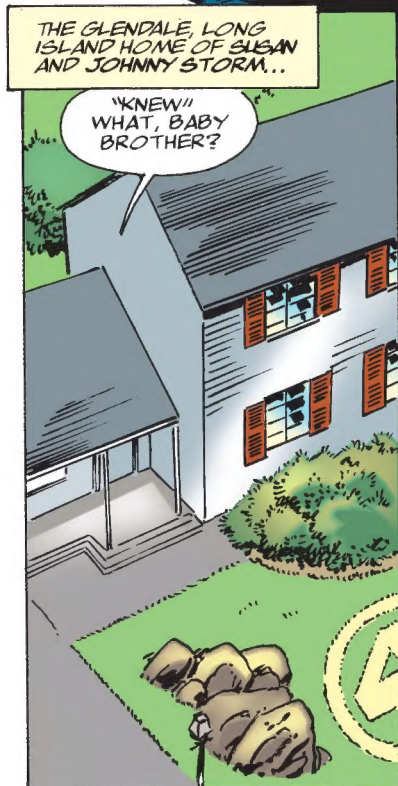


D'OH!! OF COURSE! WHAT AN IDIOT I AM! I TOLD JONAH THERE WAS NO LIZARD SO THAT NO ONE WOULD TRACK DOWN DOC CONNORS--

--BUT I ALSO "PROVED" SPIDER-MAN WASN'T IN FLORIDA!

AH, WELL---AT LEAST THERE'S NO ONE DUMB ENOUGH TO BELIEVE I'M ELECTRO, JUST BECAUSE THEY READ IT IN THE BUGLE!

"I KNEW IT!!"



THE GLENDALE, LONG ISLAND HOME OF SUSAN AND JOHNNY STORM...

"KNEW" WHAT, BABY BROTHER?



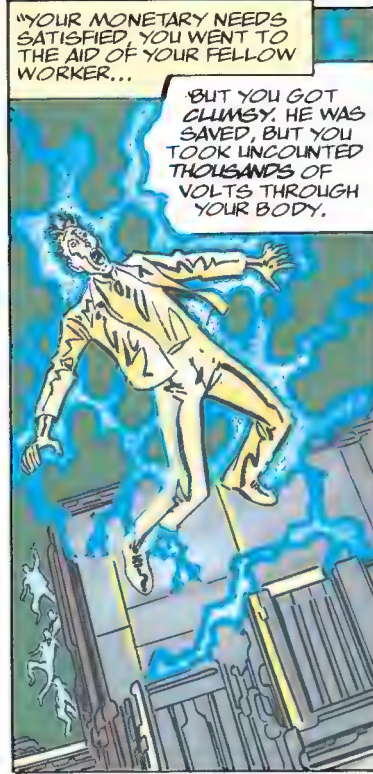
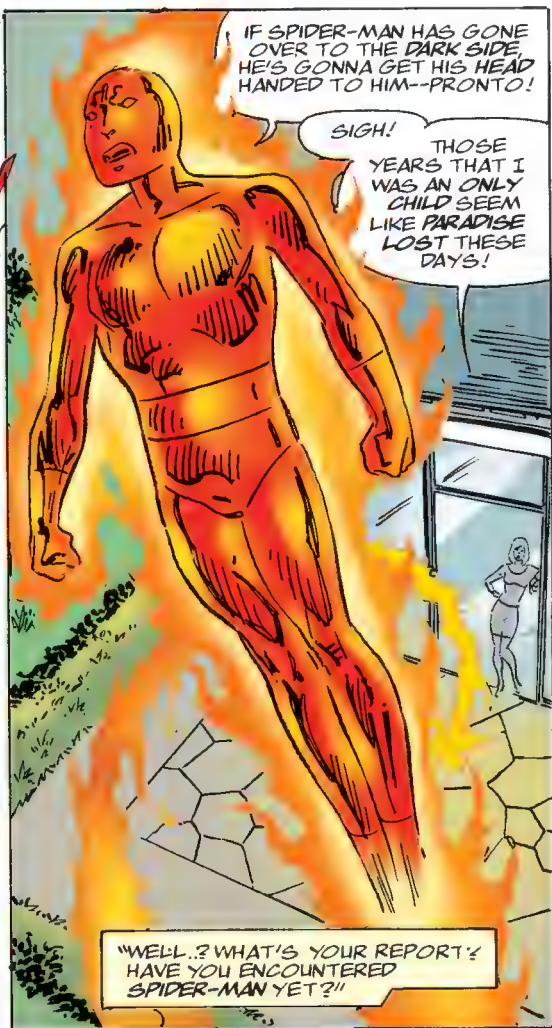
...ALSO KNOWN AS THE INVISIBLE GIRL AND THE HUMAN TORCH!

THIS ARTICLE IN THE PAPER! IT SAYS SPIDER-MAN IS REALLY THIS PUNK WHO CALLS HIMSELF ELECTRO.

I KNEW THAT WISEACRE WOULD TURN OUT TO BE A CROOK, SOONER OR LATER!

OH? AND THIS WOULDN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH SPIDER-MAN STEALING ALL YOUR THUNDER LATELY, WOULD IT?







"BY ANY REASONABLE STANDARD, YOU SHOULD HAVE DIED INSTANTLY."

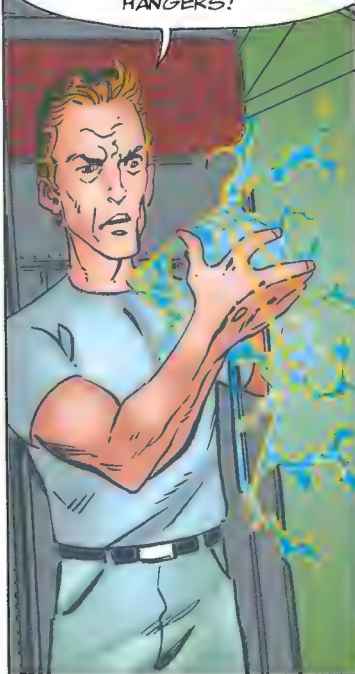
"BUT, SOMEHOW, YOU SURVIVED LONG ENOUGH FOR THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL TEAM TO STABILIZE YOUR CONDITION."



"ALL SEEMED NORMAL--UNTIL THREE MONTHS LATER..."

BLASTED WIRE HANGERS! CAN'T EVEN REACH INTO MY LOCKER WITHOUT...

HEY! THERE'S SOME KIND OF CURRENT PASSING THROUGH ME, ARCING FROM THE METAL OF THE HANGERS!

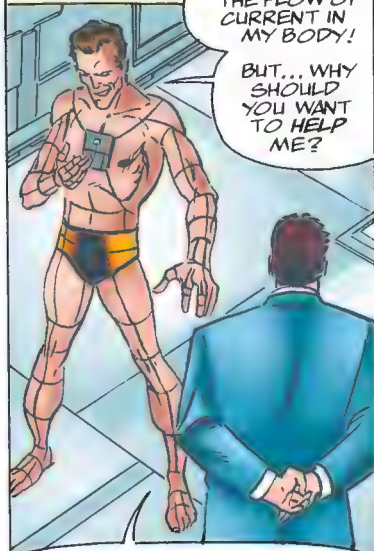


"I'D BEEN KEEPING AN EYE ON YOU SINCE YOUR MIRACULOUS SURVIVAL."

"WHEN I SAW THIS INCIDENT ON THE SECURITY CAMERA IN THE LOCKER ROOM..."

NOT BAD! THIS GADGET CONTROLS THE FLOW OF CURRENT IN MY BODY!

BUT... WHY SHOULD YOU WANT TO HELP ME?



ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW IS THAT I DO, DILLON.

AND THAT I WILL CONTINUE TO HELP YOU--FOR AS LONG AS YOU DO WHAT I WANT.

OKAY--SO MAYBE I OWE YOU ONE, BUT I SAID RIGHT FROM THE START THAT MY OWN NEEDS COME FIRST!

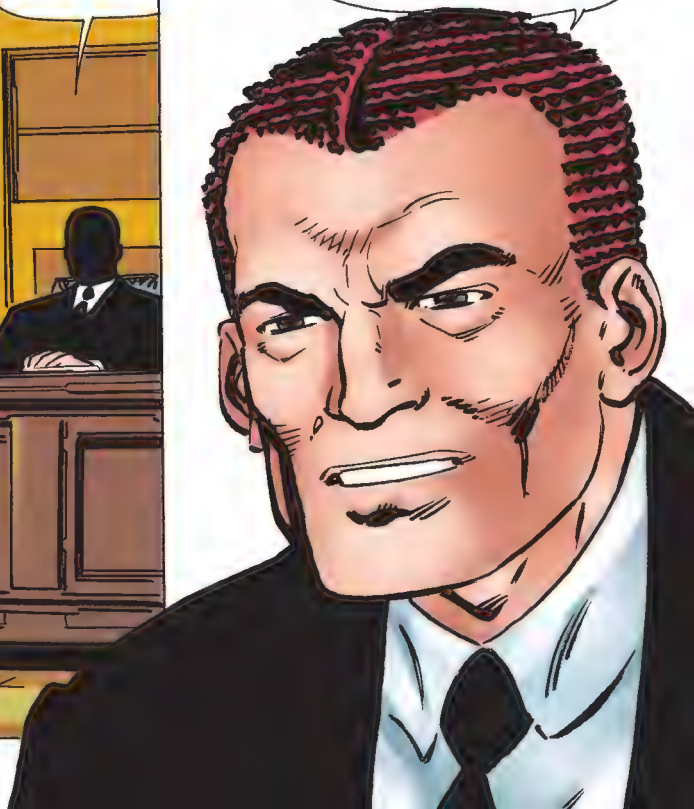
AND YOU NEVER HAVE EXPLAINED WHY YOU WANT SPIDER-MAN INVOLVED IN THIS. THAT'S JUST ASKING FOR TROUBLE!

PERHAPS.



BUT THAT NEED NOT BE OF ANY PRESENT CONCERN TO YOU, DILLON.

WHEN THE TIME COMES, I WILL DEAL WITH SPIDER-MAN--PERSONALLY.







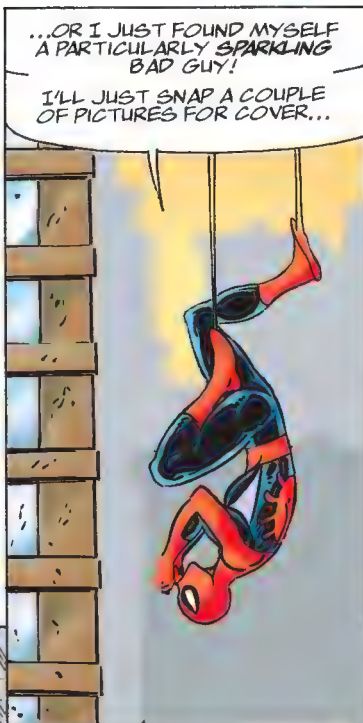
JAMESON HAS POSTED A BIG REWARD FOR THE CAPTURE OF ELECTRO.

MEANWHILE, UNAWARE OF ANY OF THIS, OUR HAPLESS HERO SEEKS TO TURN A BAD SITUATION TO HIS OWN ADVANTAGE...

IF I CAN BRING HIM IN, I CAN CLEAR MY NAME AND GIVE JONAH A KICK IN THE PANTS AT THE SAME TIME!



NOW--HOW TO FIND ELECTRO? FROM THE DESCRIPTION, IT SEEMS LIKE HE'D BE PRETTY EASY TO SPOT...



...OR I JUST FOUND MYSELF A PARTICULARLY SPARKING BAD GUY!

I'LL JUST SNAP A COUPLE OF PICTURES FOR COVER...



NUTS! IT'S JUST A COUPLE OF GUYS WITH A WELDING TORCH!

I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN! MY LUCK NEVER RUNS THAT SMOOTH!

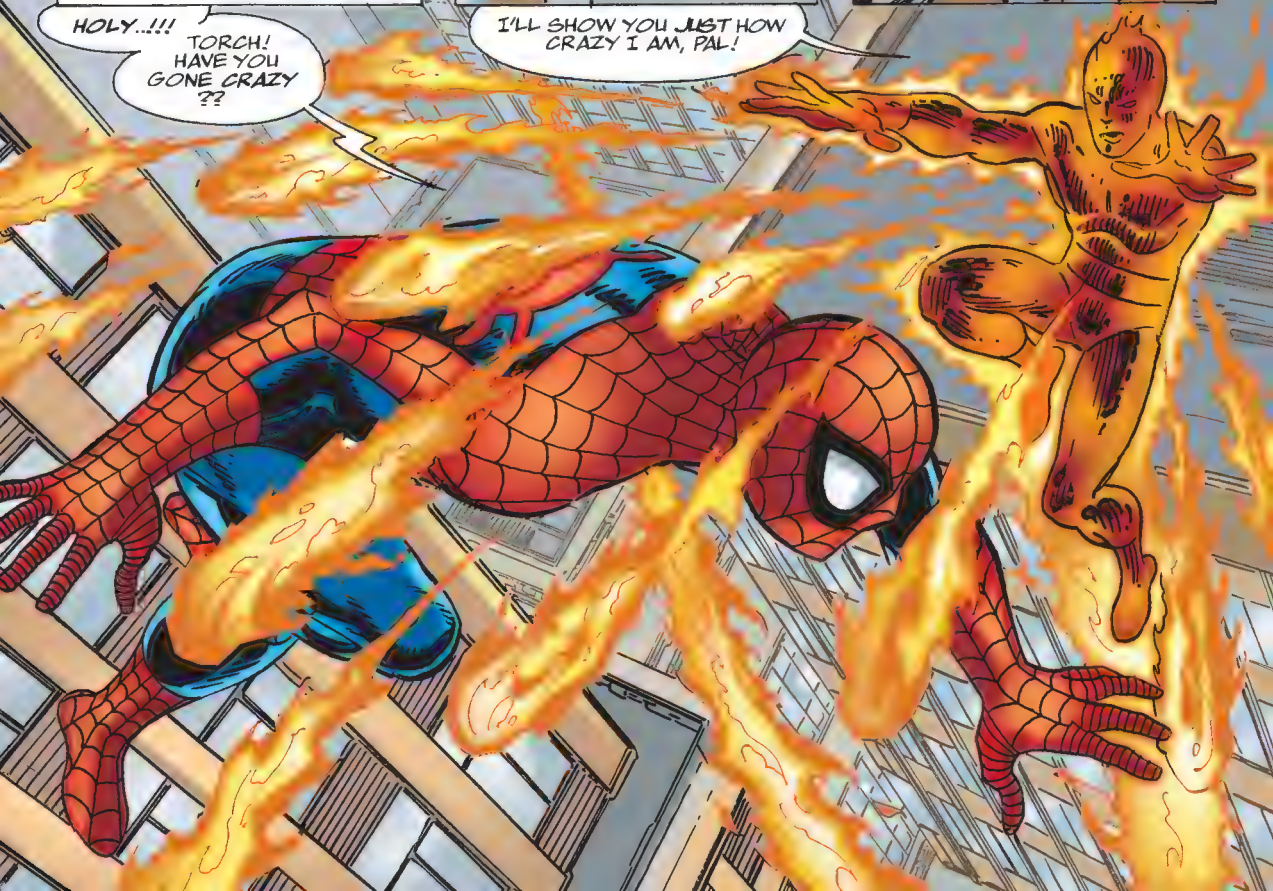
YOUR "LUCK" HAS RUN OUT, WALL-CRAWLER!

BINGO! EITHER SOMEONE IS USING AN ARC LIGHT IN THAT OFFICE...

HOLY....!!

TORCH!  
HAVE YOU GONE CRAZY ??

I'LL SHOW YOU JUST HOW CRAZY I AM, PAL!





I DON'T KNOW  
WHAT YOUR  
GAME IS, STORM...

...BUT THAT CONSTRUCTION  
SITE BELOW HAS PROVIDED  
ME WITH A HANDY WAY TO  
DODGE YOUR FIREBALLS!



YOU DON'T THINK THAT  
DROP OF WATER IS ENOUGH  
TO STOP ME, DO YOU,  
WEBHEAD?



IN JUST A COUPLE OF  
SECONDS I CAN MAKE THIS  
POOL TOO HOT EVEN FOR  
YOU!

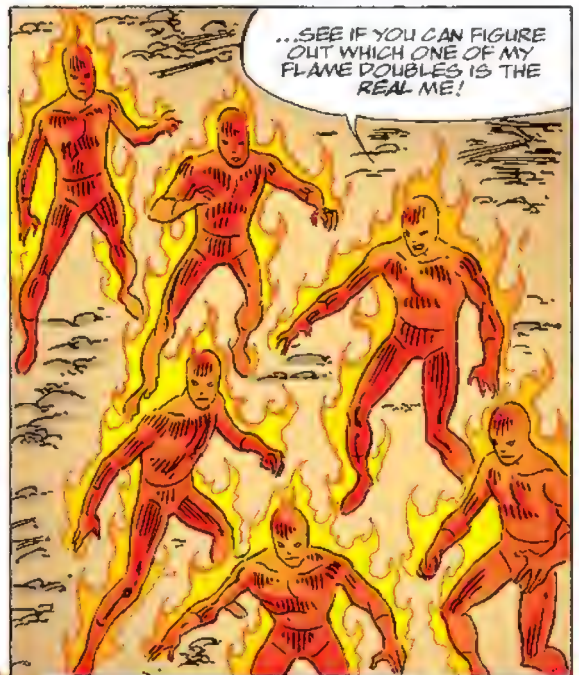


LUCKY I WASN'T PLANNING  
ON STAYING UNDER, HUH,  
HOTSHOT?

A WEB-SACK  
FULL OF WATER  
OUGHTA TAKE  
SOME OF THE  
FIGHT OUTTA YA!





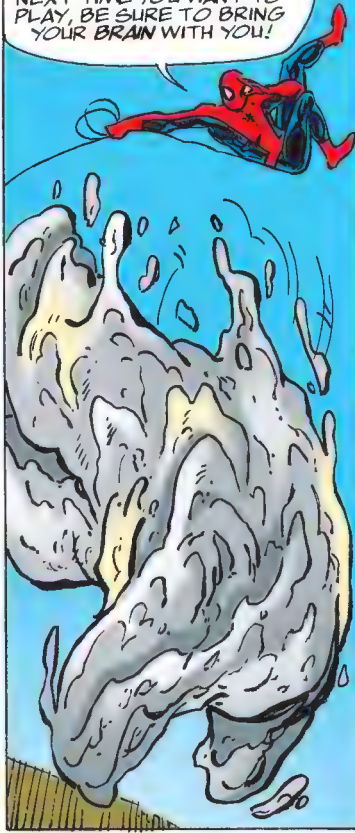




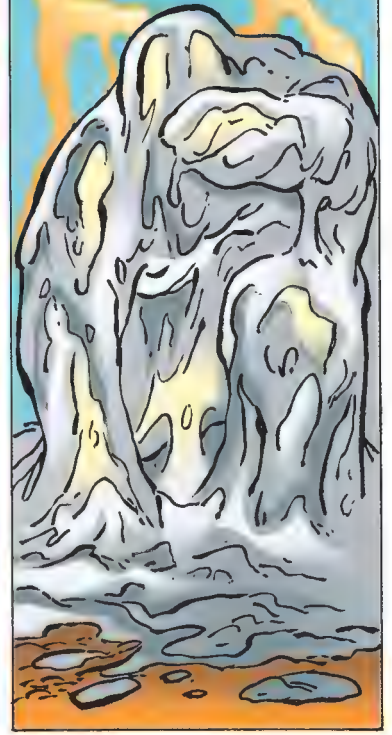
WHICH IS PRETTY MUCH A  
GIVEN...



SO LONG, BRIGHT BOY!  
NEXT TIME YOU WANT TO  
PLAY, BE SURE TO BRING  
YOUR BRAIN WITH YOU!



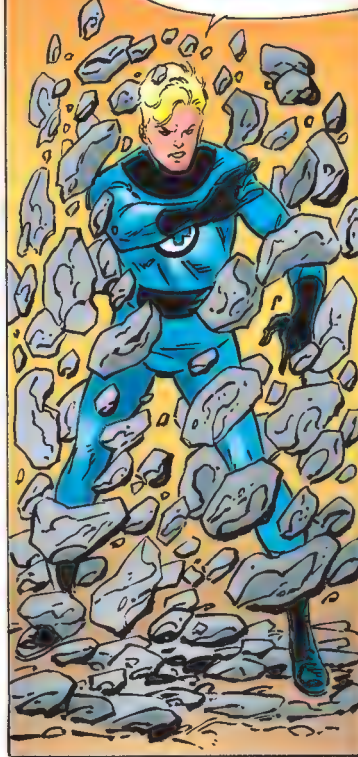
BLAST IT! I'M ALWAYS  
UNDERESTIMATING THAT  
CLOWN!



BUT HE'S MADE A SERIOUS  
UNDERESTIMATE HIMSELF, IF  
HE THINKS THIS GOOP IS  
GONNA STOP ME FOR  
LONG!

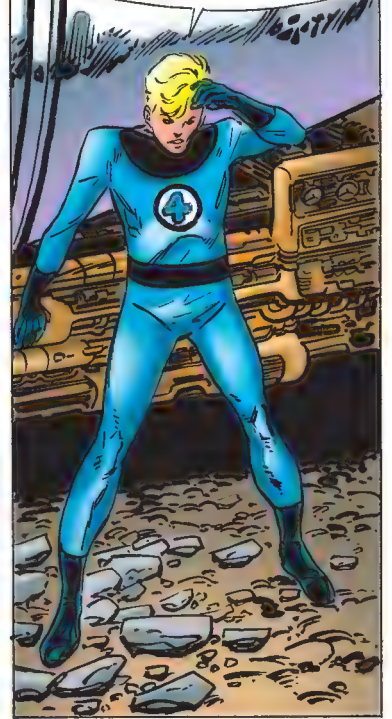


THERE! I BAKED ALL THE  
WATER OUT OF THE LIQUID  
CEMENT... ...AND  
IT'S BECOME  
BRITTLE AS OLD  
NEWSPAPER!



BUT THAT TOOK A LOT OUT  
OF ME! GONNA TAKE A  
WHILE FOR MY FLAME TO  
GET BACK UP TO FULL  
POWER

AND MEANWHILE, SPIDER-  
MAN IS NOWHERE TO BE  
SEEN!





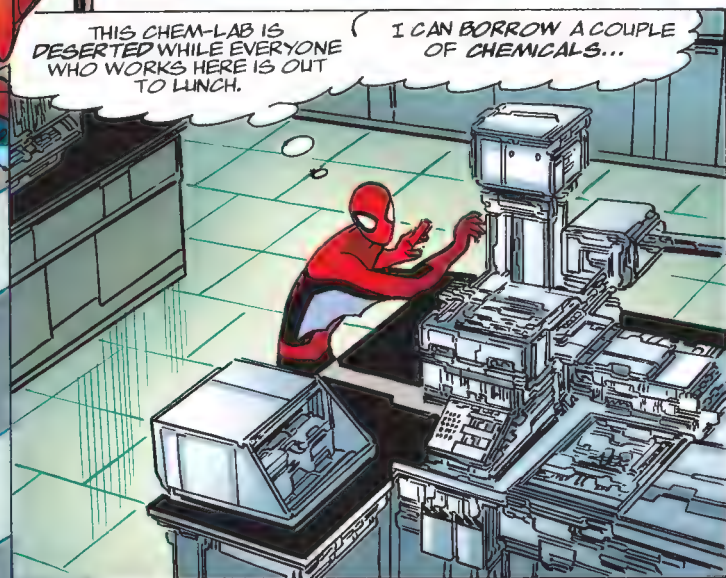


WELL--  
I FOUND  
HIM ONCE,  
I CAN  
FIND HIM  
AGAIN!

LOOKS  
LIKE HE  
WON'T  
BE  
FLAMING  
ON FOR  
A WHILE.

GOOD.

THAT GIVES ME THE  
OPPORTUNITY TO PREPARE  
MYSELF A LITTLE BETTER.

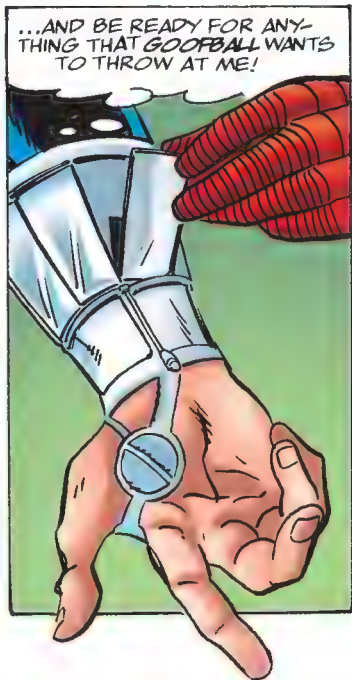


THIS CHEM-LAB IS  
DESERTED WHILE EVERYONE  
WHO WORKS HERE IS OUT  
TO LUNCH.

I CAN BORROW A COUPLE  
OF CHEMICALS...

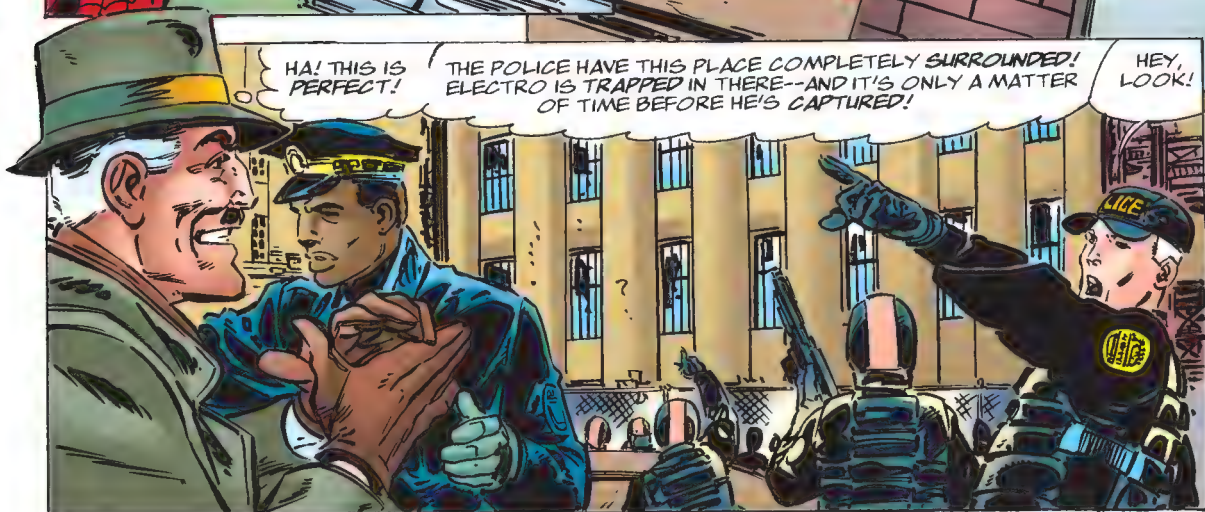


...MIX 'EM IN WITH MY WEB-  
FLUID...



...AND BE READY FOR ANY-  
THING THAT GOOFBALL WANTS  
TO THROW AT ME!

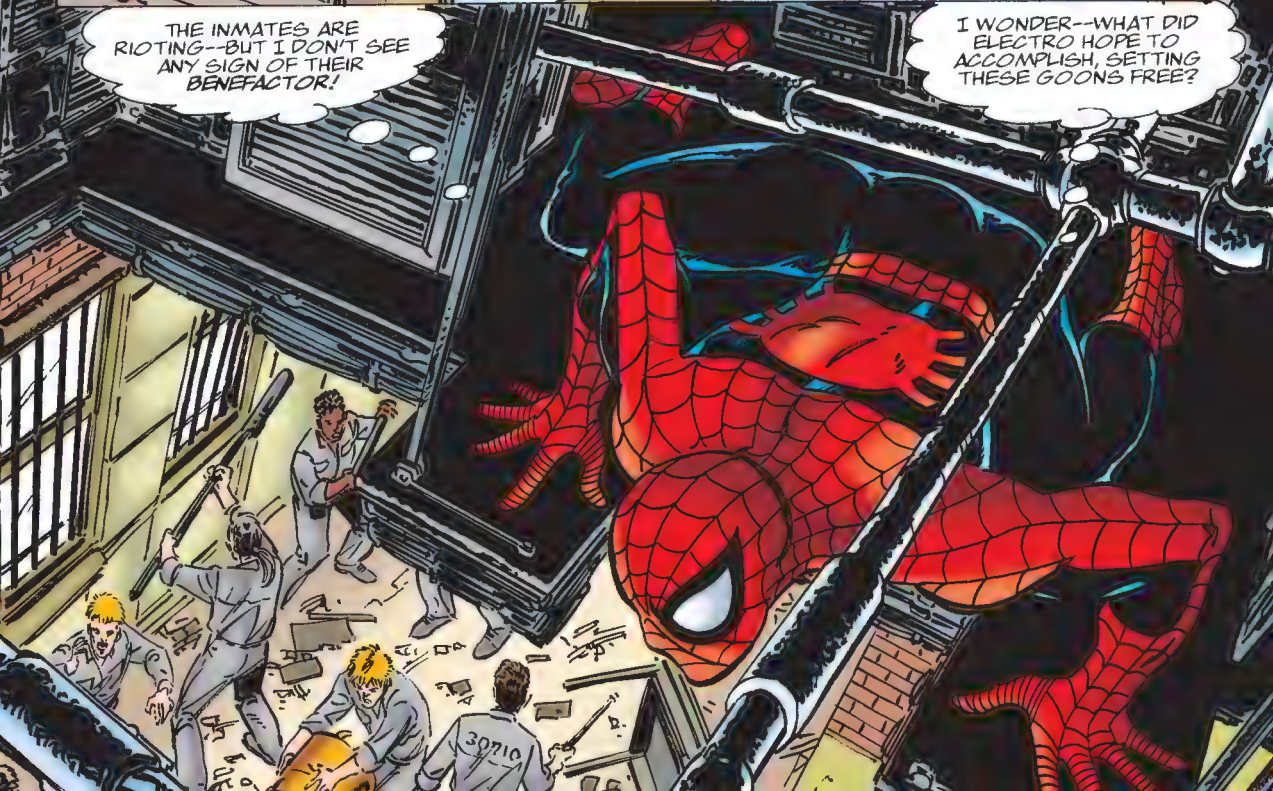
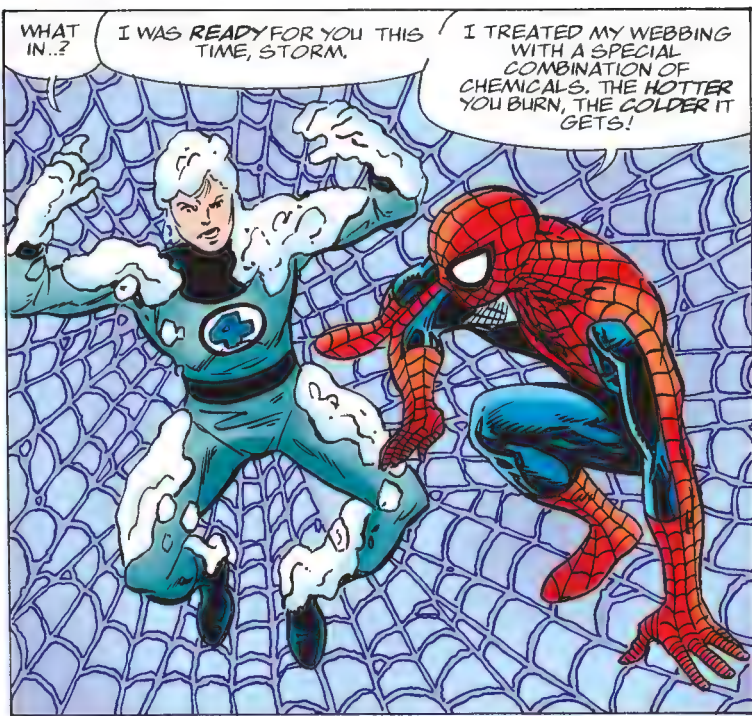
















WELL--THAT'S SOMETHING I CAN WORRY ABOUT AFTER I REDUCE THE ODDS A BIT!

HEY!

SPIDER-MAN!!

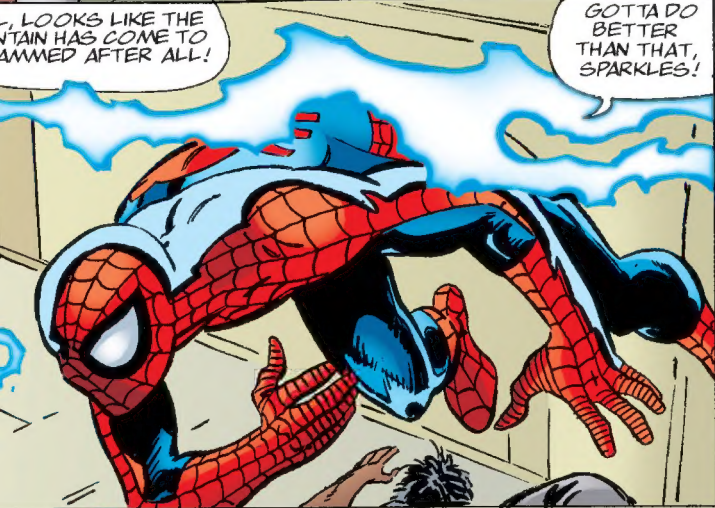
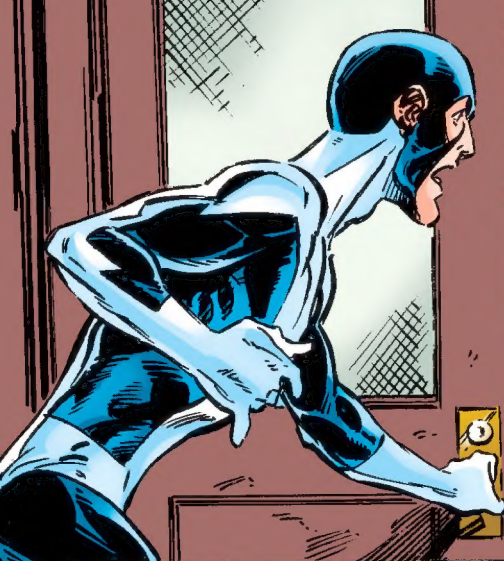
THE ONE AND ONLY, UGLY!

BUT PLEASE, DON'T ALL RUSH UP FOR AUTOGRAPHS AT ONCE!

THE LINE FORMS ON THE RIGHT.

AND I PROMISE TO TAKE CARE OF EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU!







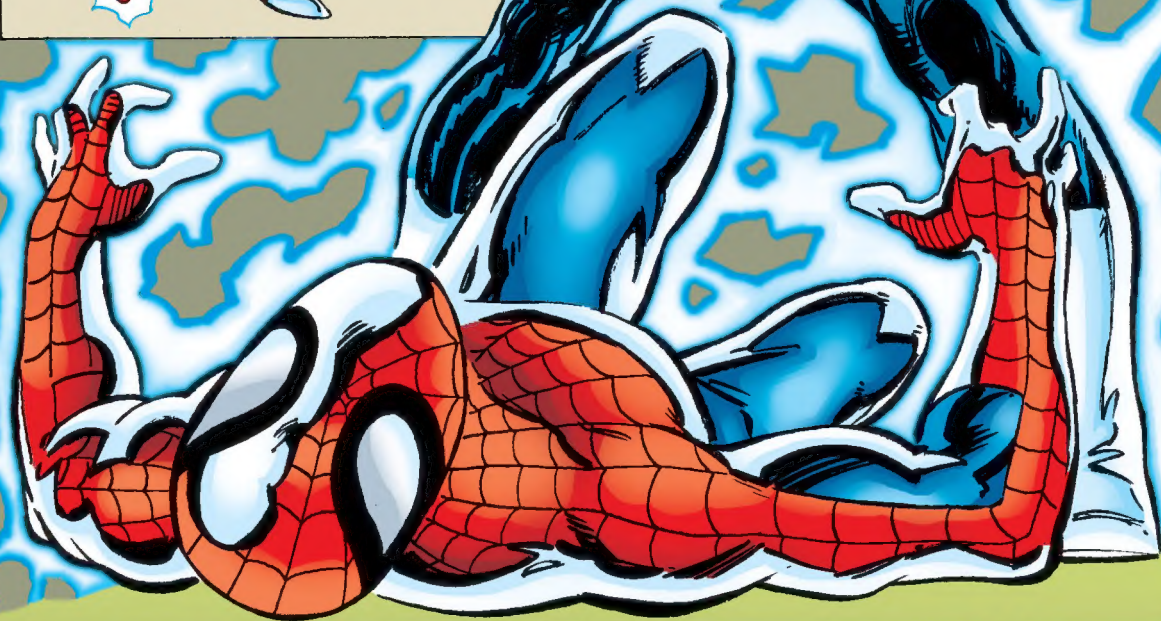
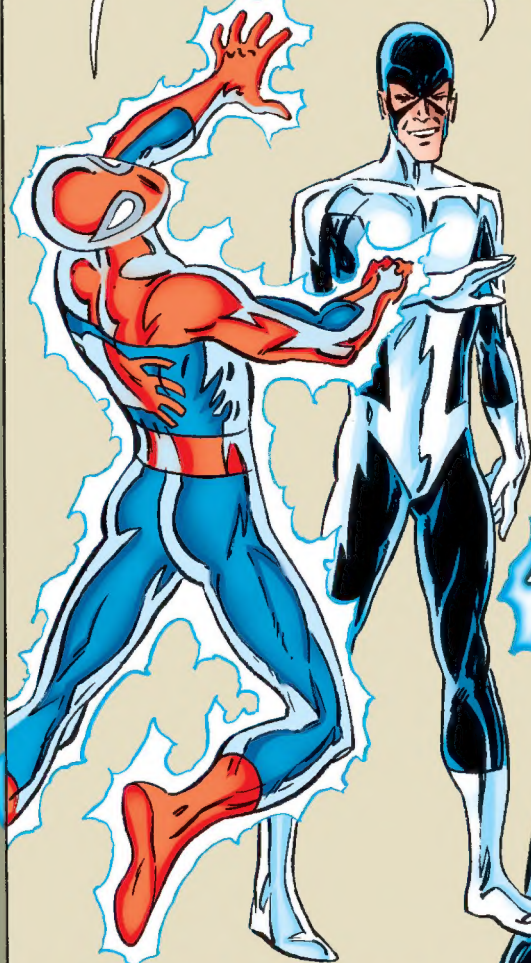
YOU AN' ME ARE GONNA TAKE A  
LITTLE TRIP DOWN TO THE  
DAILY BUGLE, AND...

AH-GH!!

IDIOT!

EVEN WHEN  
I'M NOT  
RADIATING  
MY BOLTS,  
I'M STILL  
TOO HOT TO  
HANDLE!

AND YOU,  
SPIDER-MAN,  
HAVE JUST  
MADE THE  
BIGGEST  
AND LAST  
MISTAKE  
OF YOUR  
LIFE!



NEXT: WE BRIEFLY INTERRUPT OUR TALE OF  
SPIDER-MAN, THE TORCH, AND ELECTRO, TO  
BRING YOU A SPECIAL #0 ISSUE REVEALING  
THE ORIGINS OF THREE OF SPIDEY'S MOST  
NEFARIOUS FOES!

THEN: THIRTY DAYS FROM  
NOW WE RETURN WITH THE  
WRAP-UP OF THE ELECTRO  
TALE, PLUS THE COMING OF  
MYSTERIO!

DON'T MISS  
EITHER,  
EFFENDI!





Tyrant  
Lizard  
King

EMPIRE